



2007-2008 Local Government Challenge Grant

Strengthening Virginia through the Arts

Description:

The Commission will match, up to \$5,000, subject to funds available, tax monies given by independent town, city, and county governments to arts organizations in their jurisdictions. The money, which does not include school arts budgets or arts programming by parks and recreation departments, may be granted either by a local arts commission/council or directly by the governing board.

Deadline:

All applications must be received in the Commission office no later than 5:00 p.m., **April 2, 2007 (receipt deadline, not a postmark deadline)**. The Commission does not accept application materials via fax or email.

Eligibility & Criteria:

Independent city, town, or county governments in Virginia are eligible to apply. Eligible activities are grants to independent arts organizations for arts activities in the locality.

Applications are evaluated on the basis of:

- Artistic quality of the organizations supported by the city/county/town
- Clearly defined policies and procedures for awarding local funds to arts organizations
- Degree of involvement of artists and arts organizations in the local process of awarding grants
- Responsiveness to community needs
- Evidence of local government support of the arts

Application Review & Payment Procedure

Completed applications must be received by the Commission on or before April 2, 2007. The Commission staff reviews each application for completeness and eligibility and makes recommendations on the levels of funding. The Commission reviews the staff recommendations and takes final action on the applications.

Each local government will confirm in writing to the Commission that its governing board has appropriated the matching funds. The Commission will pay the grant in full after receiving this confirmation.

Application Submission Checklist

- A complete Application must contain ONE (1) collated set of the following items:
- A completed Local Government Challenge Grant on 8.5" x 11" pages typed on one side.
- Signed Certification of Assurances Form (one page, both sides, sign on back).
- A brief description of the arts organization(s) proposed to receive Commission assistance through the Local Government Challenge Grant in 2007-2008.
- National Standard for Arts Information Exchange Race/Ethnicity Data Collection Form (this will not be considered during the grantmaking process).

Any application missing any items listed above will be considered incomplete and will be returned with a brief explanation. Returned applications will **not** be acted upon by the Commission **unless** the applicant resubmits the completed application by the due date. **NOTE: Be sure to keep a copy of your application and all forms and attachments.**

2007 – 2008 Local Government Challenge Grant

Applicants should read the 2006-2008 Guidelines for Funding, Certification of Assurance and Grant Conditions to ensure compliance with all of the conditions. **The grant deadline is April 2, 2007.** The Virginia Commission will not accept any application materials via fax or email. For assistance or more information, contact the Commission office. The Commission staff is available for consultation on applications and to review drafts of applications.

Mail application to:

Virginia Commission for the Arts
223 Governor Street
Lewis House – Second Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
804/225-3132 (phone)
www.arts.virginia.gov

DIRECTIONS:

Provide all the information requested below in the order listed and send it to the Commission at the mailing address above.

1. Type "**2007-2008 Local Government Challenge Grant**" at the head of the page. Provide the information requested below on no more than TWO (2) 8 1/2" x 11" white pages and the attachments. (Use 12 point type or larger)
2. **Applicant local government name, address, zip code.**
3. **Telephone, fax, e-mail, URL.**
4. **Federal Employer ID number.** The Federal Employer ID number is assigned to your organization by the federal government as your Federal Employers' Identification number. This number must be included in your application. Payments cannot be made without this number.
5. **Contact Person.** The name and telephone number of the person to be contacted for more information about this application.
6. **Amount of Virginia Commission for the Arts assistance requested for fiscal year 2007-2008.**
7. **Proposed local government arts appropriation for fiscal year 2007-2008.** Applicant governments must match the amount requested from the Commission on at least a dollar-for-dollar basis with local government funds; federal funds may not be included. A local government that has not approved its budget by the grant deadline may apply conditionally and confirm the application in writing by July 2, 2007. After the grant has been approved, any change in the allocation of funds subgranted to local arts organizations must be approved by the Commission.
8. Sub-grants (grants made by the local government) of any Commission funds from the Local Government Challenge grant program may only go to independent Virginia arts organizations for arts activities in the locality. Virginia arts organizations are defined as those organizations whose primary purpose is the arts (production, presentation or support of dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theater, or visual or related arts), that are incorporated in Virginia, and have their headquarters and home seasons, or activities equivalent to a home season, in the state. Units of government and educational institutions cannot be considered arts organizations.

continued on next page

2007-2008 Local Government Challenge Grant Application
Page 2

Using the following format, **list which local independent arts organizations will receive the Commission grant money subgrant.** (After the Commission grant has been approved, any changes in the allocation of sub-grants to local arts organizations must be approved by the Commission.)

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Mailing Address/Contact Person</u>	<u>Proposed VCA Grant Share</u>
_____	_____	_____

9. What is the process for awarding the above grants? Who is involved in making these decisions? What criteria are sought in evaluating applicants?

10. Attach a copy of the list of your current board/council members, if a board/council is involved in making funding decisions.

11. Attach a brief description of the arts organization(s) proposed to receive Commission assistance through the Local Government Challenge Grant in 2007-2008.

**CERTIFICATION OF ASSURANCES AND GRANT CONDITIONS 2007-2008 FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTEEES
OF THE VIRGINIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS (COMMISSION)**

Virginia Commission for the Arts grantees are required to be non-profit Virginia organizations and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a), which includes the 501(c)3 designation of the Internal Revenue code, or are units of government, educational institutions, or local chapters of tax exempt national organizations.

No part of any Commission grant shall be used for any activity intended or designed to influence a member of Congress or the General Assembly to favor or oppose any legislation.

Each Commission grantee will:

- provide accurate, current and complete financial records of each grant.
- maintain accounting records which are supported by source documentation.
- maintain effective control over and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets ensuring that assets are used solely for authorized purposes.
- maintain procedures ensuring timely disbursement of funds.
- provide the Commission, or its authorized representatives, access to the grant-related financial records.

The grantee will expend any and all grant funds only for purposes described in the application form and attachments. The grantee must request permission in writing to make substantial changes in budget, schedule, program, personnel. The requested changes must be approved in advance by the Commission. NOTE: If any project receiving grant support from the Commission has actual income in excess of expenses, the grantee must use these funds for other arts activities and the Commission must approve the organization's use of any of these excess funds up to the amount of the grant.

Each Commission grantee will comply with these federal statutes and regulations:

Title VI, Section 601, of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provides that no person, on the ground of race, color or national origin, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Title IX, Section 1681, of the Education Amendments of 1972, which provides that, with certain exceptions, no person, on the basis of sex or age, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Americans With Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination against persons with physical or mental disabilities in federally assisted programs. Compliance with this Act includes the following: notifying employees and beneficiaries of the organization that it does not discriminate on the basis of handicap and operation of programs and activities which, when viewed in their entirety, are accessible to persons with disabilities. Compliance also includes maintenance of an evaluation plan developed with the assistance of persons with disabilities or organizations representing disabled persons which contains: policies and practices for making programs and activities accessible; plans for making any

continued on next page (signature required)

structural modifications to facilities necessary for accessibility; a list of the persons with disabilities and/or organizations consulted; and the name and signature of the person responsible for the organization's compliance efforts. ("ADA Coordinator")

No final report is required for the Local Government Challenge Grant. Each local government will confirm in writing to the Commission that its governing board has appropriated the matching funds. The Commission will pay the grant in full after receiving this confirmation.

In **all** published material (printed programs, news releases, web news, email alerts, advertisements, flyers, etc.) and announcements regarding the particular activity or activities supported, acknowledgment of the Commission must be made. A suggested phrase is "(organization or activity) is partially supported by funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts."

This form must be signed by an individual duly authorized by the governing body of the locality to act on its behalf and submitted with every grant application made to the Commission. The signature of the individual indicates the locality's compliance with all of the grant conditions listed above.

The undersigned certifies to the best of his/her knowledge that:

- the information in this application and its attachments is true and correct;
- the filing of this application has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant organization;
- the applicant organization agrees to comply with all grant conditions cited above.

The undersigned further certifies that he or she has the legal authority to obligate the applicant locality.

_____	_____
Typed Name of Authorizing Official	Title

_____	_____
Signature of Authorizing Official	Date

Applicant Locality Name: _____